IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: WOODS et al.

Application No.: 10/817,133

Filed: April 1, 2004

For: PROXIMITY MENISCUS

MANIFOLD

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: Culbert, Roberts P.

Atty. Docket No. LAM2P475

Date: March 31, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 31, 2006.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§1.97

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

The references listed in the attached PTO Form 1449 (the copies of references which are not U.S. Patents have been attached), may be material to examination of the above-identified patent application. Applicants submit this reference in compliance with their duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97. The Examiner is requested to consider this reference and to acknowledge such consideration by initialing the appropriate location on the attached PTO Form 1449.

A statement is hereby made that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign. A copy of two European Search Reports are enclosed herein. Any references cited in the European Search Reports that have already been cited in a previously filed IDS are not cited in the attached Form 1449 herewith.

This IDS is believed to be filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, it is believed that no fees are due in connection with the filing of this IDS. However, if it is determined that any fees are due, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-0805 (Order No. LAM2P475).

Respectfully submitted,

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U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ^{2 (if known)}	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	Α	2002/007869	01/24/02	Pui et al.	
	В	2003/138968	07/24/03	Fisher et al.	
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	F	6,474,786	11/05/02	Percin et al.	
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Foreign Patent Documents

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Examiner Initial	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document No.	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number- ⁴ Kind Code ^{5(if known)}				
	l	WO 2004/030051 A2	04/08/04	Lam Research Corporation		
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Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initial	Cite No.	Include name of author (in CAPTIAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
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Examiner	 Date	
Signature	 Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.